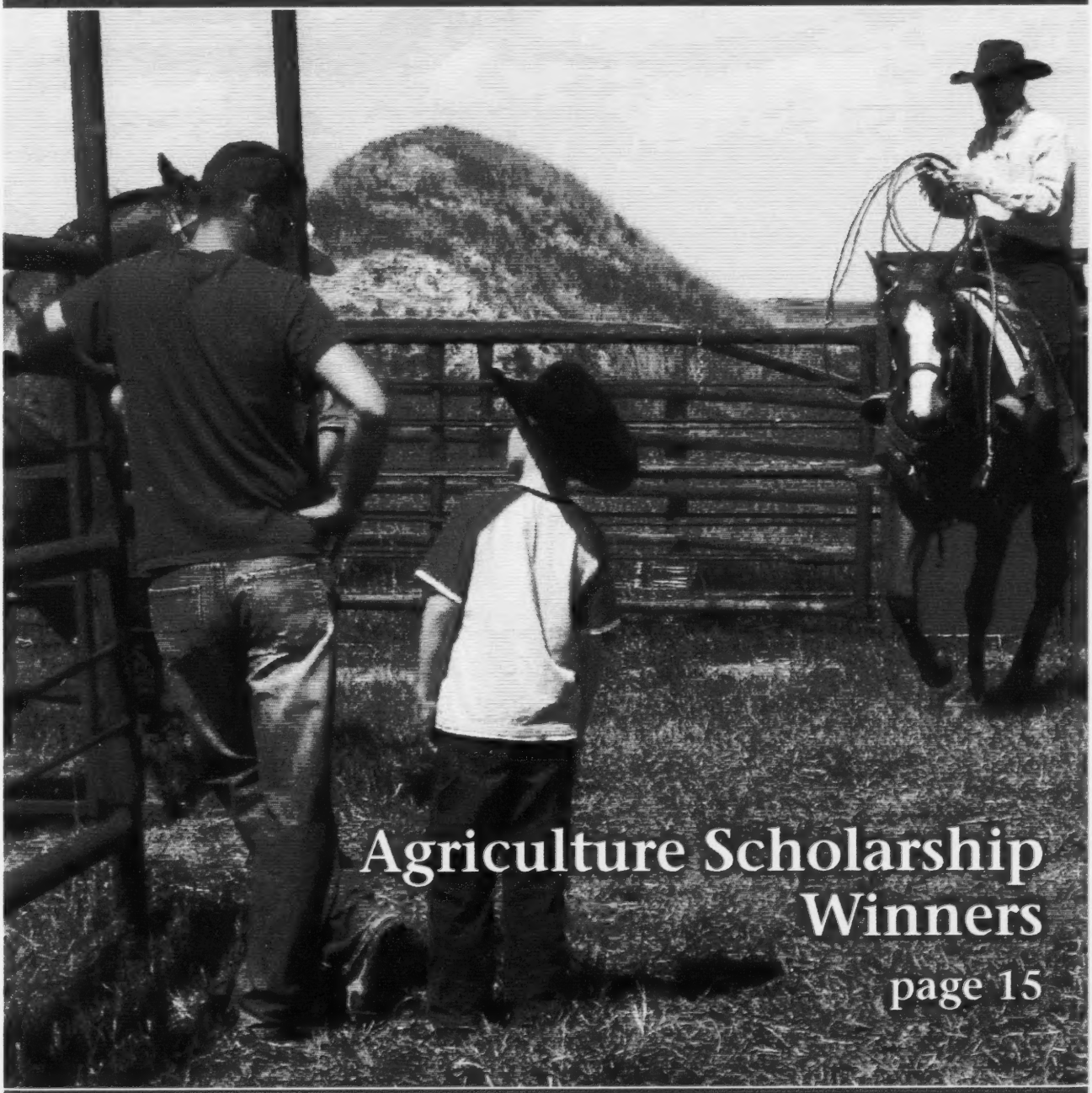
ISSUE 03

AGRIVIEW

JUNE 2012 VOLUME 8



Agriculture Scholarship Winners

page 15

WILLOWHERB CONTROL PAGE 4

CROP REPORTER APPRECIATION PAGE 6

DEALING WITH DRAINAGE PAGE 8

Saskatchewan Agriculture

A message from Premier Brad Wall

As Premier of Saskatchewan, it is my pleasure to contribute to Agriview.

Our province continues to lead the nation in many categories and our government is committed to working to keep Saskatchewan moving forward. This includes investing in infrastructure, supporting research and making life more affordable for Saskatchewan citizens, all within a balanced budget – the only balanced budget in Canada.

Saskatchewan's farmers and ranchers play a vital role in our province, helping to drive the economy and feeding people around the world.

As the world's population continues to grow, the demand for safe, reliable food will become increasingly important. As a leader in agriculture innovation and production, this presents an excellent opportunity for our province and our producers.

None of this would have been possible without the contributions of Agriculture Minister Bob Bjornerud. Minister Bjornerud has been a steadfast proponent for farmers and ranchers in our government and around the Cabinet table. His knowledge of the industry, his leadership and his desire to put the needs of producers first has helped to shape our agriculture programs and policies for the better.

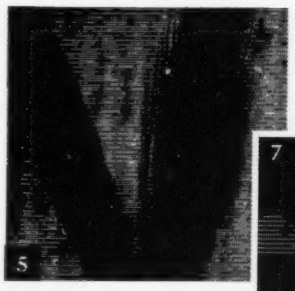
Under Minister Bjornerud's leadership, we have improved the Crop Insurance Program, reduced education property taxes, provided significant disaster relief, and introduced many new programs to help producers.

I want to thank Minister Bjornerud for his dedication and service to our province, agriculture industry and producers. While he has decided to step down from Cabinet, he will continue to play a valuable role in our government.

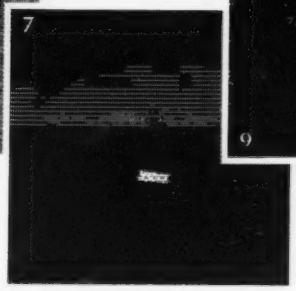
In closing, I want to thank all Saskatchewan producers for your contributions to our province. I know our next agriculture minister will continue working on your behalf and you can be assured your industry will continue to be a priority for our government.

Brad Wall
Premier

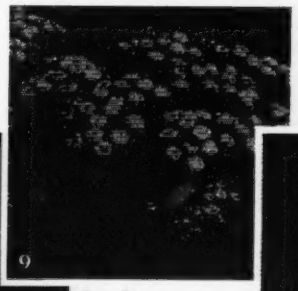
STORY SNAPSHOTS



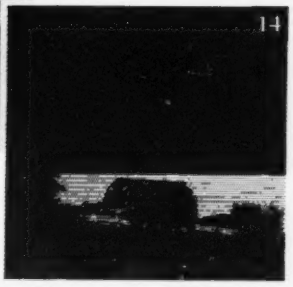
Crop staging



Plant disease surveys



Controlling common tansy



Farm safety

TABLE OF CONTENTS

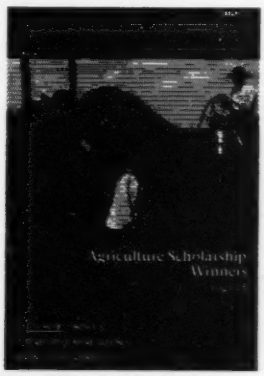
CROPS 4

LIVESTOCK 8

RESEARCH 9

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES 10

EVENTS CALENDAR 16



Cover: Getting ready for branding at the McDonald Creek Pasture.

Saskatchewan Agriculture

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To view this publication online, visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/programs-services.

What is willowherb and why is it in my fallow?

by Clark Brenzil, PAg
Provincial Specialist, Weed Control
Crops Branch

There are several species of willowherb (*Epilobium angustifolium*) that are native to the Canadian Prairies. Willowherb is closely related to fireweed and evening primrose.

Sticky willowherb is usually less than one-metre tall, and has opposite leaves that are roughly spear shaped with fine serrations along the edges. All reproductive parts are in multiples of four, including petals, sepals, anthers and the chambers of the seed pod. Flowers are small (six millimetres across) with pale pink petals borne on the tip of the long seed pod. Pods, which can be up to five centimetres long, produce many small seeds that have several tufts of white hairs that allow the seed to spread in the wind.

Willowherb sprayed and injured with glyphosate (right) and not sprayed (left).

Most requests for identification or control measures over the last several years have been from the operators of chemical-fallow fields. When the rare report of willowherb growing in crops is submitted, it is typically associated with wet soil conditions, i.e. the boundary of a slough. This suggests that willowherb is not very competitive and prefers damp environments.

Willowherb's role in nature is to temporarily cover and protect land that has experienced some type of catastrophic vegetation loss due to fire or flood. For example, from nature's perspective, chemical fallow is similar to these and will trigger the growth of willowherb.

Willowherb appears to be tolerant to glyphosate, as are the other members of the evening primrose family, although the plant will show initial symptoms of injury (see photo). Anecdotal reports suggest that fallow herbicides have little impact on willowherb. Sticky willowherb is not a large plant, therefore producers may not realize that it is a perennial, and may initially apply relatively low rates of glyphosate in chemical fallow. Injury from the initial application prevents willowherb from responding to future herbicide treatments as well.

Early timing of herbicides may be another factor in willowherb tolerance. In spring, sugars in perennial plants are moving from root to shoot. As a result, glyphosate may produce top growth control with foliage growing back quickly. Perennials are best targeted for control from mid-August to late September while sugar flow is from leaves to roots.

Willowherb has been an evolving weed management concern for producers over the last several years in fallow, especially during wet seasons. Little research has been done on the control of willowherb with other herbicides. Because it is not often reported as a problem in seeded crops, intensive management of willowherb may not be cost-effective.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

FLAX IS A GOOD CROP OPTION

by Venkata Vakulabharanam, MSc, PAg
Provincial Specialist, Oilseed Crops
Crops Branch

Flax is still a good crop choice in Saskatchewan's crop rotation. The presence of triffid contamination may have reduced the number of shipments to the European Union (E.U.); however, E.U. buyers are still showing their confidence by purchasing Canadian product as they consider it high-quality flax.

Recent unanimous approval of a levy increase by Saskatchewan flax growers showed their confidence in the flax industry and its prospects. Temporary levy increases recently approved by the North American crushers and Canadian processors and exporters also shows their belief that the flax industry will bounce back. Contributions of $100,000 by crushers from the E.U. for the development of new non-genetically modified flax cultivars shows that they still value our flax and our flax industry as a dependable supplier.

Here are some positive aspects that speak for keeping flax in your crop rotation:

- Recently, two new pesticides were registered for flax – the herbicide Authority®, which gives good control of kochia, and the fungicide Headline®, which is providing high flax yields by controlling pasmo disease.
- Recent review of Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation data showed that flax stubble provides excellent canola yields in some years. This secures flax's position in any crop rotation.
- The Farm Stewardship Program delivered by the flax industry reduced triffid contamination from 10 per cent in the 2009-10 crop year to 3 per cent in 2011-12 in producer flax samples.
- The Flax industry and Dr. Helen Booker, a flax breeder at the Crop Development Centre, are currently working to deliver newly reconstituted flax cultivars with no traces of the Triffid gene.

The Flax Council of Canada and SaskFlax are working hard to keep the flax industry moving forward. They are working together to increase market share of flax in the health food market through health claim approvals and developing flax cultivars suitable for our northern climate. At current market prices, good agronomics promise good returns.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377; or
- Visit our website at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/Agri-ARM.

Determining the best time to stage a crop

by Rory Cranston, AAg
Irrigation Agrologist
Irrigation Branch
and

by Faye Dokken-Bouchard, MSc., AAg
Provincial Specialist, Plant Disease
Crops Branch

Saskatchewan producers are becoming more aware, knowledgeable, and active when it comes to controlling diseases in their crops. However, one difficulty most producers still face is properly timing a fungicide application to get the optimum level of control.

The importance of timing is critical as most fungicides will only prevent disease development on a plant - not cure it. Apply a fungicide too late and disease will already be established in your crop, apply too early and the fungicide's effectiveness can end while there is still significant risk of disease.

Determining the best time to spray can be difficult. Proper staging can be elusive with unpredictable weather conditions. For example, a hot summer in Saskatchewan can cause a crop to develop extremely fast, with the optimum stage passing in less than a day. The variations in Saskatchewan climate from year to year affect development enough to make it impossible to have a fixed date for fungicide application. Furthermore, weather conditions can eliminate the need for a fungicide application if not favourable to disease development.

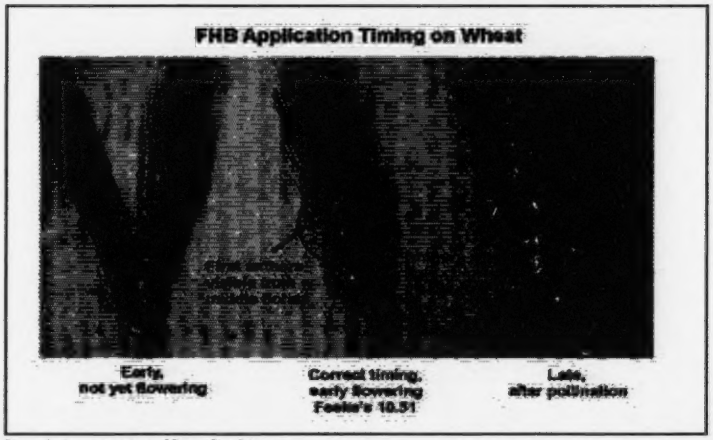


Figure 1 - Image courtesy of Bayer CropScience

Fungicide timing for Fusarium Head Blight

In the 2011 growing season there were numerous inquiries about the proper timing for a fungicide application to control Fusarium Head Blight (FHB) in wheat. If weather conditions are favourable to disease development, the proper time to apply is when 75 per cent of the wheat heads are fully emerged to when 50 per cent of the heads on the main stems have visible anthers (see figure 1). These stages usually occur near the middle of July, and at most will last three days.

The current recommended wheat seeding rate of 1.6 bushels per acre encourages tillering which will increase the variation of flowering and increase difficulty when staging the crop. Increased seeding rates will reduce tillering and flowering variation, making it easier to stage.

Fungicide timing for leaf diseases

The flag leaf is responsible for filling wheat kernels. Lesions or pustules on this leaf will reduce the photosynthetic area and impact kernel weight and yield. If conditions are favourable to disease development and early symptoms are observed, protect the flag leaf with a foliar-applied fungicide before leaf spot and rust diseases progress.

For leaf spot diseases (tan spot, septoria leaf blotch), an early application of registered half-rate fungicides can be timed with herbicide applications for early season disease suppression under normal field conditions. However, research has not shown a consistent benefit to this practice, so leave a check strip and follow-up with a flag leaf application to protect the flag leaf and yield potential.

Normally cereal rusts, like leaf and stripe rust, will appear later in the season in Saskatchewan, arriving on wind currents from the Pacific Northwest region of the United States. If rust appears late (dough or later), it is unlikely to cause economic losses. However, if the rusts arrive earlier, or even overwinter here like they did in 2011, they can nibble away at yields for a longer period of time and create the need for fungicides.

Similar to the leaf spots, the focus of scouting for cereal rusts should be the flag leaf. However, because rusts can attack the kernels as well as leaf tissue and there is a greater potential for yield damage, the window for spraying may be slightly wider than the flag leaf-targeted application required for good control of leaf spots. At the jointing-to-boot stage, spray if you find rust on at least five per cent of plants (incidence) with at least three per cent of flag leaf tissue affected (severity). At the heading-to-flowering stage, spray if there is at least 10 per cent rust incidence and five per cent severity. At the milk stage, and only if the fungicide's post-harvest interval (PHI) allows, spray if there is at least 20 per cent rust incidence and 10 per cent severity. If no pustules are observed, spraying is not necessary. If rust is too severe to control (80 per cent incidence and 70 per cent severity), spraying is not recommended.

Remember, timing is extremely important, but the economic benefit of a fungicide application will also depend on the price of grain, the loss in yield caused by the disease if uncontrolled and the cost of the fungicide, including application.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377; or
- Contact your local Regional Office.

THE FARM AND RANCH WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (FRWIP) IS COMING TO A CLOSE.

August 1, 2012 is the deadline for applications.

Inquiries and applications: 1-877-874-5363 toll free. Email [illegible] or visit [illegible]

Alfalfa survey stands needed

by Andre Bonneau, BSA, PAg
Forage Management Specialist
Regional Services Branch

When most producers think of insect outbreaks in forages, grasshoppers or alfalfa weevil typically come to mind. However, there are numerous insect species that reside in forage crops. Although we may be unfamiliar with other insects, they are still an important part of forages.

There has been very little information collected on insects in Saskatchewan forage crops. Generally, insect issues are brought to light during an outbreak and dealt with on an individual basis. By conducting an annual insect survey, Ministry of Agriculture specialists, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada personnel and the forage industry will be better able to monitor harmful and beneficial insect species and may be able to predict damaging changes in the insect population.

For the past two years, Ministry of Agriculture Forage Specialists have conducted insect surveys on alfalfa stands throughout the province. Early this summer, forage specialists from across the province will be surveying up to five pre-chosen alfalfa stands in each region. However, some of these sites have been terminated and new sites will be needed. If you have an alfalfa stand or an alfalfa-dominated forage stand between three and eight years old, contact your local forage specialist. The specialist will take up to half a day to survey the stand with a sweep net. The best time to survey is after the alfalfa has started flowering but before the stand is cut.

The results of recent alfalfa surveys are found on the Saskatchewan Forage Council website at www.saskforage.ca in the "Saskatchewan Forage Market Report – January 2012".

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit your nearest Ministry of Agriculture Regional Office; or
- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

SASKATCHEWAN AGRICULTURE HONOURS ITS CROP REPORTERS

by Daphne Cruise, PAg
Regional Crops Specialist, Moose Jaw
Regional Services Branch

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture has a group of dedicated and valued volunteer crop reporters who provide information every week during the busy farming months on the activities and progress of the production season. The Crop Report is published weekly, and is closely followed by the agriculture industry.

On March 7, 2012, nine crop reporters and their guests were recognized for their 25-, 30- and 35-year contributions to the Crop Report. The day included a tour of the Legislative Building, and a luncheon with presentations of long-service recognition awards by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Alanna Koch. The Saskatchewan Minister of Agriculture, Bob Bjornerud, also introduced the crop reporters to the members of the Legislative Assembly during Question Period and thanked them for their dedicated service.

The following crop reporters received recognition for their service:

25-year crop reporters: Bette and Dennis Reiss, R.M. of Francis, No. 127; Brian and Jeanette Becker, R.M. of Calder, No. 241; Walter and Linda Sullivan, R.M. of Milton, No. 292; Dale and Donna Meier, R.M. of Progress, No. 351; Harry and Eileen McCorriston, R.M. of Connaught, No. 457; Valerie and Gaylord Muller, R.M. of Frenchman Butte, No. 501.

30-year crop reporters: Allan and Marion Hardy, R.M. of Wolseley, No. 155; Edward and Charlotte Datchko, R.M. of Ituna Bon Accord, No. 246; Jim Hornford, R.M. of Elfros, No. 307; Emile and Marie Robin, R.M. of Leask, No. 464; Percy and Anneliese Schiele, R.M. of Meadow Lake, No. 588.

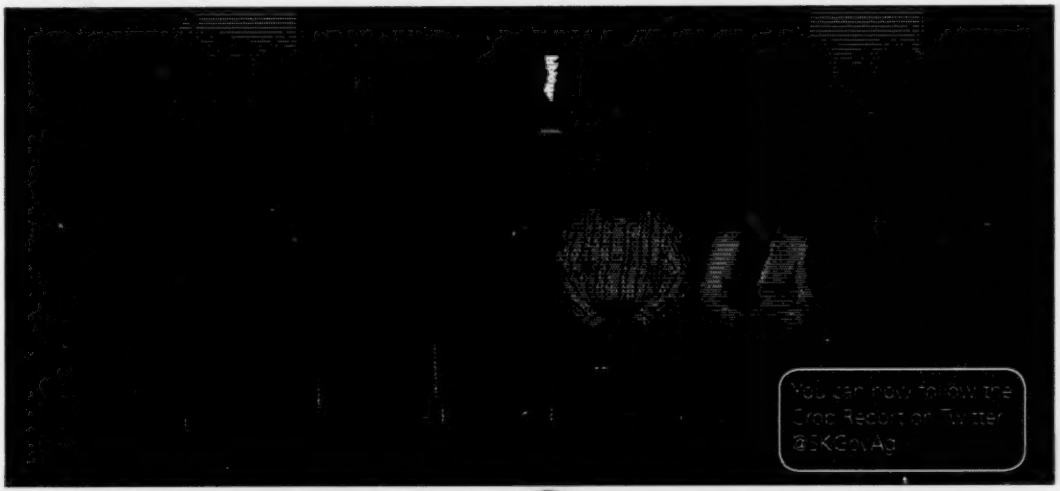
35-year crop reporters: John and Deanna Hignett, R.M. of Big Arm, No. 251.

The Ministry of Agriculture greatly appreciates the contributions of the entire dedicated team of more than 220 crop reporters across Saskatchewan.

If you are interested in becoming a crop reporter, please contact the Ministry of Agriculture.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.



Richardson's ground squirrel numbers decline, but control still needed

by Scott Hartley, PAg
Provincial Specialist, Insect and Vertebrate Pests
Crops Branch

Over the past two years, southern regions of Saskatchewan have experienced a great reduction in Richardson's ground squirrel (RGS) numbers. However, the west-central and northwestern regions have reported increases in the ground squirrel infestations in some areas that were drier in 2011.

Spring is the best time to control the ground squirrels as they emerge from over-wintering burrows in search of food. The effectiveness of grain-based baits can drop well below 30 per cent after green growth appears in the spring, whether bait is placed directly in burrows or in bait stations. In addition, alfalfa contains Vitamin K, an antidote to anticoagulants such as chlorphacinone. Products that contain chlorophacinone are most effective in fields containing less than 40 per cent alfalfa and only early in the spring before the alfalfa is actively growing.

Predators, including raptors (Swainson's hawk above) are important for biological control of RGS.

Although RGS will be seen above ground throughout the summer, they are less active around the end of June when the rodents enter a "hibernation" phase in their life cycle. Therefore, placing bait in burrows at that point will have little effect on their populations.

All bait stations should be removed by late spring. The longer the rodenticide grain baits are in the field, the greater the risk of accidental poisoning of non-target animals, including deer, antelope, birds, livestock and pets.

It is important to consider options other than strychnine and other rodenticides as part of long-term management of RGS. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies can still be incorporated in the summer. Whenever possible, maintain vegetation in pastures or forage at a height greater than 15 cm. RGS tend to inhabit areas with shorter vegetation where they are better able to see predators. Maintaining predator habitats near RGS burrows will be beneficial as predation alone may eliminate over 30 per cent of the ground squirrel population. Raptor platforms may also be helpful in attracting predator birds to nest in or around RGS-infested areas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

PLANT DISEASE SURVEYS IMPORTANT TOOLS IN HEADING OFF DISEASE PROBLEMS

by Sean Miller, PAg
Integrated Pest Management Agrologist
Crops Branch

Saskatchewan Agriculture's disease surveys are an important component of integrated disease management plans. The disease surveys provide producers with advanced notice of potential disease problems, allowing them to take the necessary monitoring, prevention and control measures.

The Canola Disease Survey is conducted from mid- to late August by volunteer pathologists, agronomists and Saskatchewan Agriculture staff. Canola is assessed in the field for sclerotinia stem rot, blackleg, alternaria black spot, fusarium wilt, foot rot and aster yellows. The incidence of diseases is recorded in the field.

The Clubroot Survey is conducted at the same time as the Canola Disease Survey. Soil samples are collected from fields where permission has been received so they can be tested for clubroot DNA.

The Fusarium Head Blight Survey monitors the severity and spread of fusarium head blight, as well as the *Fusarium* species responsible for infection. Surveyors collect cereal heads when crops are in the early milk to early dough stages. The samples are sent to the Crop Protection Laboratory for species identification and disease severity rating.

The Cereal Leaf Disease Survey determines the prevalence, severity and distribution of cereal leaf diseases and is conducted at the same time as the Fusarium Head Blight Survey. The survey also identifies the most prominent rusts and leaf spotting pathogens in each region. Surveyors collect samples of flag leaves from fields within their region for analysis.

The Pea and Lentil Disease Surveys are conducted from late July to early August. Disease assessments are made in-crop by observing several representative plants throughout the field to determine the general health of the crop and the presence or absence of disease symptoms.

Results of previous plant disease surveys are available on the Canadian Plant Disease Survey website at: www.cps-scp.ca/cpds.shtml.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Sean Miller, Integrated Pest Management Agrologist at (306) 787-4670.

Dealing with drainage on your land

Well-planned drainage of excess water off arable lands makes significant contributions to the province's agricultural industry. The excess moisture of the last years showed the value of such drainage. It also showed what happens if drainage is not properly planned and constructed.

Many Saskatchewan landowners, rural municipalities and conservation organizations have expressed concerns to the government about the impact and damage caused by unauthorized drainage. The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, in collaboration with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities and other stakeholders, have begun discussing unauthorized drainage and ways to effectively address this issue.

Working Collaboratively to Solve Drainage Problems

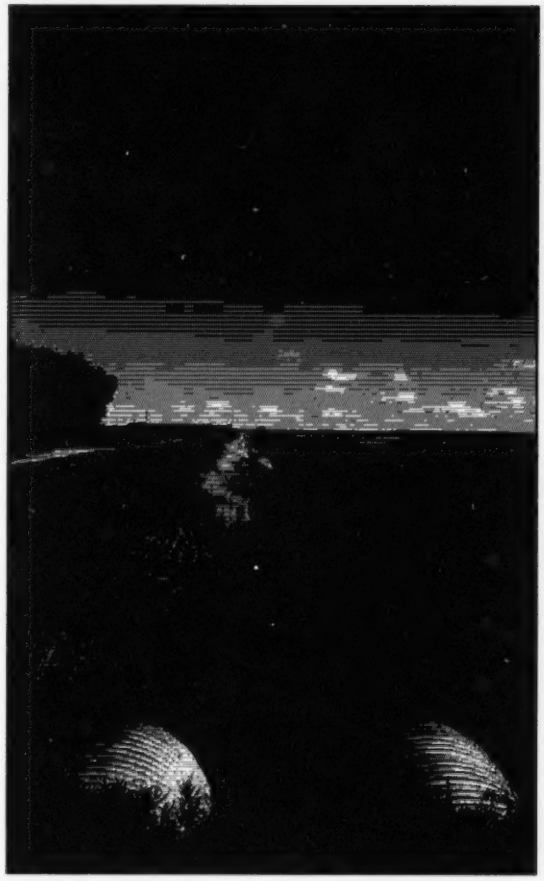
Most landowners don't want to cause problems for their downstream neighbours but may not have the necessary understanding of regulatory requirements or the impact of unauthorized drainage. Being aware of how drainage can affect a downstream neighbour is the first step to solving potential problems.

Often times, drainage impacts can be minimized when landowners work together. One successful approach involved the creation of a conservation and development association by neighbouring landowners. The Watershed Authority is available to offer advice for groups of landowners interested in this option.

If unauthorized drainage is causing significant problems, enforcement actions may be the only other option. This can be avoided by working together with the Watershed Authority, and downstream neighbours. The Authority encourages landowners to carefully weigh the potential impacts of drainage and seek approval for a planned or existing project.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority at (306) 694-3900 or by email at comm@swa.ca; or
- Visit the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority's website at www.swa.ca.



TRACEABILITY AND HERD HEALTH SESSIONS

by Paul Marciniak
Livestock Development Specialist
Livestock Branch

The Livestock Marketers of Saskatchewan (LMS) recently held a series of information sessions titled the "Traceability and Herd Health Series" across the province. The sessions were funded through the Ministry's Voluntary Traceability Initiative under the federal-provincial Growing Forward framework. Designed to provide up-to-date information to producers and auction market staff, meetings were hosted by 17 LMS members from Maple Creek to Tisdale and Whitewood to Meadow Lake.

Providing information on both animal health and traceability, each session included speakers from Merck Animal Health, the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. Attendees heard presentations on: vaccination, genotyping, handling medicine, the importance of tagging cattle, how traceability will be used and how it may benefit producers and industry.

Among the information provided by Dr. Alex McIsaac with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency was: how a premise identification system could aid in controlling the damage to the Canadian cattle herd caused by an animal illness. The Producer Service Representatives from Canadian Cattle Identification Agency included explanations of the three pillars of traceability; Animal Identification, Premise Identification and Animal Movement Reporting.

Meetings run from March 12 to June 8 and organizers estimate a total of 500 producers and auction market employees will attend. The sessions have been a good opportunity for producers to better understand how the traceability system works and how they will benefit from traceability.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca to view commonly asked questions and answers from the LMS meetings.

The search for a biological control of common tansy

Common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*) is a toxic plant that commonly occurs in pastures across Western Canada and the northern United States. It was originally brought to North America from Europe where it was used as a culinary and medicinal herb. It is typically found in uncultivated areas such as roadsides, fencelines, pasture forest margins and parks. It forms large clumps that spread out gradually by growth of root crown, as well as by prolific seed production. Wide spread of common tansy will cause a loss of desirable vegetation, destruction of pasture carrying capacity and degradation of wildlife habitat.

It is very difficult to control common tansy. Two herbicides (Telar® and Escort®) are labelled for control in Canada, but both products have impacts on non-target plants, including grasses and trees, and cannot be used within 30 metres of water bodies.

Saskatchewan's Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) supported a Canada/United States public/private project to find biological controls for the plant. Researchers at CABI (Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International) in Switzerland worked in Europe to identify insects that preyed on the plant and select the ones that showed the best potential for controlling the plant here.

Previous research has already identified the insects that kept tansy under control in Europe. This project selected areas in Europe that shared a climate with the areas in the North American plains where tansy was a problem, and then researchers collected insect samples.

The main collection areas were in northern Germany, in Russia around St. Petersburg and Moscow, and in Ukraine around Kiev. Other collection sites included southern Germany and Armenia. Field work in Russia was carried out in cooperation with the Russian Academy of Sciences, and in Ukraine with the cooperation of the M.G. Kholodny Institute of Botany.

The researchers closely observed the life cycles and feeding habits of the various insects in order to select those that did the most damage to North American tansy, and also to ensure they would not present a threat to any non-target species. Before the insects could be brought to North America for further testing and ultimate release, approval had to be granted by the Canadian Biological Control Review Committee and the American Technical Advisory Group for Biological Control Agents of Weeds.

Working with these agencies, the researchers compiled a list of test plants that included six European *Tanacetum* species, three native North American *Tanecetum* species, 32 species from the plant family to which *Tanacetum* belongs, 13 species (including sunflower and lettuce) from a family related to *Tanacetum*, and even five species from plant families that bore some chemical similarities to common tansy.

As a result of all this work, six insects have been selected for further detailed study before they can be recommended for importation to North America.

The stem-mining weevil *Microplontus millefolii* produces a single generation each year and overwinters as an adult. It lays its eggs in the shoot tips of tansy in early June, and the larvae feed in the stems.

The tortoise beetle *Cassida stigmatica* feeds on common tansy foliage in both its larval and adult stages. Adults are quite long-lived and some can live and remain active for two and even three years.

The moth *Isophrictis striatella* lays its eggs in the flower heads of tansy in late summer. The larvae begin to feed on the flower heads in late fall and then move into the stems in the early spring from which they emerge as adults in late summer.

The stem-boring beetle *Phytoecia nigricornis* lays its eggs in the stems of common tansy. It has proven relatively hard to find and raise, so further study is needed on this insect's potential.

The gall midge *Rhopalomyia tanaceticola* produces two generations per year: April to May and June to September. The first generation produces galls in the leaf axils or on the leaves, while the second makes conical green galls on the flower heads. It appears that the larvae leave the galls to overwinter and pupate in the soil. A second gall midge that feeds on tansy, *Ozirhincus tanaceti*, was identified by a project collaborator in Serbia. This species may also be a potential biological control agent.

The flea beetle *Longitarsus noricus* feeds on tansy roots as a larva in the summer and emerges as an adult the following spring to feed on the foliage.

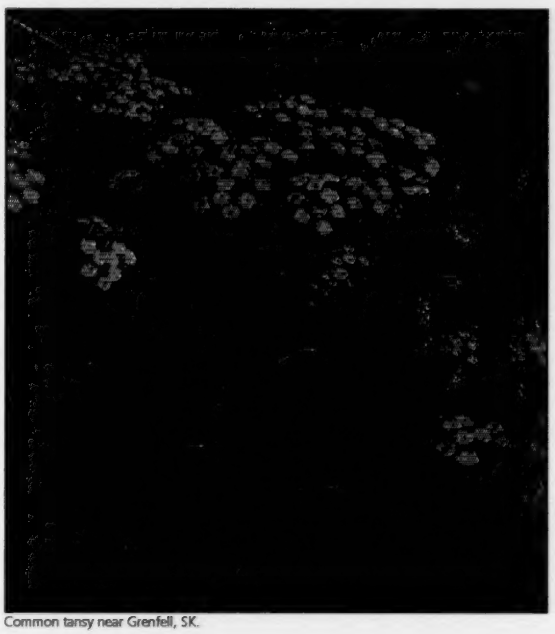
The work done on this project has provided a solid foundation for the further detailed studies that will be necessary before any biological control agents can be approved for release in Canada and the United States. Currently, ADF is supporting a research project that focuses on detailed biological and host specificity tests on several selected European insects feeding on common tansy, and assesses their suitability and safety as biological agents. Results of this project will be available in a couple of years.

The Agriculture Development Fund provides funding to institutions, companies and industry organizations to help them carry out research, development and value-added activities in the agriculture and agri-food sector. The results produce new knowledge, information and choices in technologies, techniques and varieties for farmers, ranchers, processors and input suppliers, to improve the competitiveness of Saskatchewan's agriculture sector.

In 2012, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture committed $11.8 million in new funding for 60 ADF research projects.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit the Saskatchewan Agriculture research reports page at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/ADF/Search and enter report number #20060126.



Common tansy near Grenfell, SK.

On-Farm Food Safety Implementation Program: helping to produce safe food

by Sandra Stanger
Manager, Financial Services
Financial Programs Branch

Since April 2009, Saskatchewan's On-Farm Food Safety (OFFS) Implementation Program has provided more than $1.3 million to 11 provincial agricultural producer organizations or their designates. The program assists producers with the implementation of industry-specific, nationally recognized on-farm food safety systems. This year is the last year of the program. To date, nine groups have applied for and will receive funding for implementation programming in 2012-13.

Implementation activities offered by each group differ as groups are given the flexibility to target programming and funding support based on their own identified priorities, while still meeting the terms of the Growing Forward agreement.

Each commodity group is responsible for delivery of its On-Farm Food Safety Program, including any educational and promotional activities, and producer-directed funding. Producers are not required to be members of the associated commodity group to access the on-farm food safety programming offered by these groups.

Along with workshops and seminars, on-farm food safety has been promoted at a number of industry events through the mail, by newsletters and on the web. Some groups also provide funding for technical advice, food-safety-related equipment and/or first certification audits.

"Funding provided to our organization through the Saskatchewan On-Farm Food Safety Implementation Program has helped us reach our producers with training opportunities and provide our producers with financial assistance to actually implement the Food Safe Farm Practices OFFS system for sheep on their farms," Gord Schroeder of the Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board said. "We are also encouraging our producers to implement traceability activities to further enhance their day-to-day food safety and herd management practices."

For information on specific on-farm food safety programming, contact the associated commodity group listed below:

Beef cattle – Verified Beef Production Program: 1-888-675-6177;

Sheep – Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board: (306) 933-5582;

Dairy – SaskMilk: (306) 721-9486;

Vegetables – Saskatchewan Vegetable Growers Association: (306) 862-3798;

Greenhouse crops – Saskatchewan Greenhouse Growers Association: (306) 259-4809;

Fruit – Saskatchewan Fruit Growers Association: (306) 782-0256;

Herbs, spices and natural products – Saskatchewan Herb and Spice Association: (306) 694-4622;

Wheat and oats – Canada Grains Council: (204) 818-6812;

Pork – SaskPork: (306) 244-7752;

Chickens and hatching eggs – Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan: (306) 242-3611;

Turkeys – Saskatchewan Turkey Producers: (306) 931-1050.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FIELD DAYS HAPPENING THIS SUMMER

by Shannon Urbaniak, PAg
Regional Crops Specialist, Prince Albert
Regional Services Branch

The Saskatchewan Agri-ARM (Agriculture-Applied Research Management) program connects eight regional applied research and demonstration sites into a province-wide network. The program sets out to:

- Increase the adoption of new agricultural production technologies and practices;
- Provide farmers with more tools for environmental and economic decision-making;
- Develop and maintain an adequate level of infrastructure and expertise for regional applied research and demonstration; and
- Increase public awareness of agriculture's role in environmental stewardship and the overall economy.
- The Agri-ARM program has benefited from the collaboration of a number of partners including: the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, who provides funding for the program each year; Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; the University of Saskatchewan; the Provincial Council of Agriculture Development and Diversification Boards; and other industry groups.

The research priorities of each Agri-ARM site are determined by a producer-led board, resulting in a diversity of demonstration projects across the province. Although many projects are designed for a specific Agri-ARM location, there are also many examples of collaboration among sites. There is a diversity of projects that take place at each of the Agri-ARM locations. These include new crop agronomy, weed control technology, fertility evaluations and equipment technology.

Annual Agri-ARM field days provide producers with an opportunity to observe research and demonstration projects and to discuss results with researchers and agronomists. The schedule below lists the planned dates for 2012; please confirm dates as we approach events as they are subject to change.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/Agri-ARM for description of each site and contact information;
- Contact your local Regional Crops Specialist; or
- Call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

Agri-ARM Field Days Schedule

Date	Event	Location	Contact
June 1	Seager Wheeler Seeding Trends	Rosthern	(306) 232-5959
July 11	Scott Field Day	Scott	(306) 446-7475
July 12	Agronomy in Action Tour	Swift Current	(306) 778-8291
July 12	Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre and Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation Field Day	Outlook	(306) 867-5523
July 17	Conservation Learning Centre Field Day	Prince Albert	(306) 960-1834
July 18	South East Research Foundation Field Day	Redvers	(306) 848-2856
July 18	Melfort Field Day	Melfort	(306)878-8807
July 24	Indian Head Agricultural Research Foundation Field Day	Indian Head	(306)695-4200
August 8	Conservation Learning Centre Combine Clinic	Prince Albert	(306)960-1834

Growing Forward

AgriStability: A wealth of knowledge close at hand

When the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) began administering AgriStability in 2010, it recognized the need for greater program support. In response to that challenge, SCIC has worked to bring the AgriStability Program closer to the producer. At any of the 21 SCIC customer service offices across the province, producers will find knowledgeable staff who can answer questions, investigate concerns or help when common issues arise. For more extensive consultation or program analysis, SCIC has individuals available to provide a high level of expertise.

Eight program experts called AgriStability Advisors are located across the province. Accessible through any of the 21 SCIC customer service offices, they can provide analysis and insight into the program at no cost. Backed with a strong agricultural background, these individuals have extensive knowledge of how AgriStability works and the impact farm management decisions can have on the coverage and/or benefit the Program can provide.

The AgriStability Advisors are available to consult with producers, accountants or form preparers and can investigate and address any questions or concerns. Producer organizations or farm groups can also request a meeting with an AgriStability Advisor if they are looking for direction and advice on how the program works for their sector.

SCIC's new online tool, "AgConnect", is a great new way for producers to handle their AgriStability business. The AgriStability Advisors can meet one-on-one to help clients learn the operation of the new web application and to show how it can improve the opportunity for quicker processing of program applications.

SCIC is committed to providing comprehensive support for the AgriStability Program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit any of the 21 customer service offices across the province;
- Call the AgriStability Call Centre at 1-866-270-8450; or
- Contact an AgriStability Advisor directly at:

Joe Cleutinx - Yorkton, Raymore and Moosomin - (306) 728-0702

Mark Coulter - Turtleford, North Battleford, and Prince Albert - (306) 728-0883

Tammy Klassen - Saskatoon, Davidson and Humboldt - (306) 728-0534

Lyle Knutson - Swift Current, Shaunavon and Assiniboia - (306) 728-0533

Janelle Kuntz - Moose Jaw - (306) 728-0535

Ivan Peterson - Tisdale and Preeceville - (306) 728-0532

Carolyn Siemens - Kindersley, Rosetown and Leader - (306) 728-0593

Dale Ulmer - Weyburn, Estevan and Regina - (306) 728-0555.

REPORT SEEDED ACREAGE BY JUNE 25

Reporting your seeded acres is an annual component of the Crop Insurance Program. The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) mailed a pre-printed Seeded Acreage Report form to customers in May, containing all land currently registered on your contract, in a package that also contains a Stored Grain Declaration form and instruction guide.

The Seeded Acreage Report accounts for all insured and uninsured crops seeded in 2012, including crop variety, seeding dates and seeded land type (stubble, summerfallow or irrigation). Please ensure your seeded acres, too-wet acres and summerfallow acres match your total cultivated acres. Record all previous production stored on your farm on the Stored Grain Declaration, otherwise, it may be considered new production. Accurate completion of both forms will reduce errors in premiums, coverage and claim calculations.

The deadline to submit your Seeded Acreage Report is June 25. Producers have until July 5 to report seeded greenfeed acres.

An instruction guide is available to assist you in the completion of the Seeded Acreage Report and Stored Grain Declaration. Additional assistance is available by contacting your local Crop Insurance office.

Unseeded acreage

Last year, the Unseeded Acreage Benefit increased from $50 to $70 per eligible acre. SCIC has made further improvements in compensation if you have acres too wet to seed.

Producers had the opportunity to select an additional $15 or $30 per eligible acre in coverage through the Unseeded Acreage Buy-Up Option. With the $30 option, total compensation would be $100 per eligible acre.

The calculation of the Unseeded Acreage Benefit has also been simplified. The insurance intensity has been removed from the calculation and producers who choose to include summerfallow in land rotations will no longer be at a disadvantage.

June 25 is also the deadline to register Unseeded Acreage claims.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your nearest Crop Insurance office;
- Call SCIC at 1-888-935-0000; or
- Visit www.saskcropinsurance.com.

Growing Forward

Farm business development funding still available

by Ron Monette
Provincial Business Management Specialist
Regional Services Branch

Time is quickly running out to access funding through the federal-provincial Growing Forward framework for the Farm Business Development Initiative (FBDI) and the Young Farmers Business Development Initiative (YFBDI).

Farm development plans and applications for funding will be accepted until Dec. 31, 2012. Consulting plans must be completed and submitted to farm clients by Jan. 31, 2013, while training must be completed by Feb. 28, 2013, to allow sufficient time for reimbursement to clients before the program's end.

FBDI and YFBDI provide funding to farmers and ranchers for training or to hire consulting services for the preparation of written management plans in the areas of business strategy, marketing, production economics, human resources, financial management, succession, business structure, environmental strategy and risk management. A "Taking Stock" self-assessment exercise pinpoints exactly where needs exist and which area should be worked on under a farm development plan. Farmers and ranchers under 40 years of age can apply for reimbursement of 90 per cent of eligible costs, up to a maximum of $10,000, while other producers can apply for 75 per cent to a maximum of $4,000.

Applicants require an assessment, a farm development plan and a completed application form before the consulting work and/or training can begin. Anyone interested in learning more about these two programs should contact the Ministry as soon as possible to start the process.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your nearest regional Farm Business Management Specialist;
- Call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377; or
- Visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/programs-services.

DITCH MOWING AND HAY SALVAGE PROGRAM HAS MANY BENEFITS - JULY 8 REMAINS KEY DATE

by the Saskatchewan Ministry of
Highways and Infrastructure

Hay is once again available for salvage at no cost in provincial highway ditches according to the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure.

Producers may salvage hay anytime during the spring or summer months with landowners or lessees nearest/adjacent to the ditch having the first option to cut or bale material prior to July 8. After that, anyone may cut and bale the material without permission from the nearby property-owner, provided no salvage operations have already begun by the landowner.

Hay must be cut neatly at a uniform height and bales of hay must be placed no less than eight metres away from the shoulder of the highway. All bales need to be removed by Aug. 8 and any left after that date in a location deemed to be hazardous to motorists, may be removed by the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure.

"The annual hay salvage and mowing program provides many benefits, while taking into account the needs of area land owners, producers and travellers," Highways and Infrastructure Minister Jim Reiter said. "It allows for maximum use of the hay, better control of brush and noxious weeds, optimal snow storage in ditches which reduces road drifting during the winter months and safer intersections and highway curves."

Once again, the Ministry is planning an early mowing program between June 7 and July 15 along high traffic highways. Ministry contractors will cut a four-metre wide swath along shoulders adjacent to highways 1, 7, 11, 16 and 39, along with portions of highways 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10 and 55. During this time, mowing may also be completed near some highway intersections and interchanges, railway crossings and tourism facilities.

"The hay salvage and mowing program strikes a balance by combining the needs of different stakeholder groups and delivering a cost-effective program," Reiter said. "It provides an opportunity for producers in need of feed for livestock, while contractors will be called upon to help improve the sightlines and overall aesthetics for the travelling public."

Ministry contractors will carry out regular ditch mowing and cut the width along all four-lane highways between July 15 and into the fall. A four-metre-wide strip will be mowed adjacent to the other highways with additional mowing possible as required for visibility and weed control. Weather and ditch conditions are key factors in hay salvage operations and the progress of contracted mowers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your nearest Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure office or email communicationsHI@gov.sk.ca.

IMPORTANT DATES

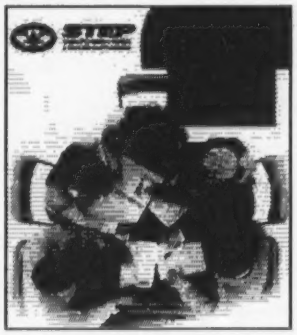
June 7 to July 15: Mowing includes a four metre shoulder cut immediately adjacent to the road surface on all highways within the Gateway Corridor Network; the National Highway System is included in this category. Some highway intersections may receive a full ditch cut to ensure good sight distance.

Before/After July 8: Before this date, a landowner or lessee nearest to a highway ditch has the first option to cut or bale the hay. After this date, anyone may cut and bale hay or grass in a highway ditch without getting the permission of the nearby landowner, provided salvage operations haven't started already.

July 15 to Fall: After this, Ministry contractors will begin mowing the entire width of ditches along all four-lane highways, while all other highways will get a four-metre cut adjacent to the highway shoulder. Some additional mowing may occur.

Selling outside of Saskatchewan? We can help!

Whether you are interested in selling to Alberta or to India, if you are interested in expanding your market reach and increasing your sales beyond the provincial borders, Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP) can help you with their Exporter Readiness Program. This program is available without charge to any Saskatchewan-based company or producer that has an exportable service or product and the desire to develop their skill set to sell into a new market.



STEP staff will meet one-on-one with you and discuss the challenges you may face as you begin exporting. After the consultation, a customized report is created along with applicable tools and an action plan identifying how you can address these challenges to be successful in a new market. Some examples of common issues that this program has helped companies or producers address, include:

- How to enter a new export market;
- How to choose a distributor or agent;
- How to use social media to increase your presence and sales in a new market;
- How to transport product from Saskatchewan to its final destination; and
- Measures to ensure payment.

Here's what STEP clients are saying:

"The market intelligence you provided was invaluable and made us re-think our direction on how to move forward. I keep the Export Readiness Program you provided me with at my desk and review it on a regular basis to ensure I am keeping on track with your recommendations."

– a Regina-area agri-value firm

STEP is a non-profit, membership driven, government/industry partnership, designed to promote the growth of Saskatchewan's export industry.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Laura Fahlman or Chris Yin at 1-888-XPORTSK (976-7875).

SASKATCHEWAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE TRADE MISSION TO INDIA AND THE EMIRATES

by Leslie Geddie
Marketing Specialist
Policy Branch

Saskatchewan Agriculture embarked on a mission to India and the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) this past February. The mission objectives were to advance market access issues with the Indian government, engage the Indian pulse industry on potential barriers to agri-food trade with India, and evaluate the business opportunities for Saskatchewan agri-food exporters at the Gulfood Trade Show.

The first stop was New Delhi, India to meet with key officials of the Indian Government. The meetings provided the delegation with opportunities to advance Saskatchewan interests in the areas of trade and food processing, and to bolster the already sizable reputation of the Saskatchewan pulse industry.

"Saskatchewan's reputation as a consistent and reliable supplier of high quality agri-food products is well known in India," Executive Director of Policy Branch, Scott Brown said, who went accompanied by Dale Risula, a Crop Specialist in the Ministry's Crops Branch. "And with a growing population of 1.1 billion and an emerging middle class population of 300 million, there is tremendous potential in this market. A niche market in India could easily be the size of the entire population of Canada."

Saskatchewan is already India's largest foreign source of peas and lentils. In 2011, Saskatchewan exported over $550 million in pulses to India in 2011.

The next stop was Mumbai, India for the Global Pulses Conclave, organized by the Indian Pulse and Grain Association (IPGA). This was the first event of its kind in India, with over 600 local and international delegates. Other delegations from Saskatchewan and Canada included Pulse Canada, led by Executive Director Gord Bacon, and Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP), led by CEO Lionel Labelle. Highlights at the event included hosting a roundtable discussion with importers and key industry associations and a visit to the Mumbai Port Trust, where delegates saw Canadian peas, along with those of competing countries, being bagged and loaded onto trucks.

The final stop was Dubai, U.A.E. to attend the Gulfood Show. This is one of the world's largest annual trade shows for the food and hospitality industry, and a tremendous opportunity to see how Canada (and Saskatchewan) stack up against other countries. A record 62,000 visitors from 150 countries and 3,800 exhibitors attended this year's event. Ministry delegates also attended the Food Leaders Summit to learn from the experiences of global leaders in the international food industry such as PepsiCo and Unilever.

Upon returning, Saskatchewan delegates met with a number of producer organizations to share information from the mission, and to help them take advantage of the opportunities for Saskatchewan's agricultural industry in this growing market.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Dale Risula, Specialty Crop Specialist (306) 787-4665; or
- Contact Leslie Geddie, Marketing Specialist (306) 787-5966.

Agriculture: The heart of Saskatchewan's past, present, and future

by Doris Morrow
Manager, Business Management Services
Regional Services Branch

and

Sara Shymko
Executive Director
Agriculture in the Classroom

Agriculture is the foundation of Saskatchewan; it influences the present and will shape our future. Farmers across Saskatchewan work diligently to produce food to not only feed our province but also feed the world. Scientists, for example, spend their lives researching ways to improve sustainable agricultural practices and develop new crop varieties. Food in Canada is safe, affordable, and of high quality. These are all themes for the new Agriculture in the Classroom Saskatchewan (AITC-SK) resources available for Grade 4 Social Studies teachers.

Developed in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, and in consultation with teachers, the AITC-SK resources consist of three core components: lesson plans, learning kits and background information documents. The primary component is comprised of 23 agriculture-based lesson plans which provide exercises, handouts and plans for teachers to utilize in the classroom. For example, students will learn about topics such as what is farming, a day in the life of a Saskatchewan grain farmer, and farm stewardship in Saskatchewan.

Teachers can also utilize the *Agriculture Learning Kit*, which contains DVDs, posters and materials designed to engage students in learning about agriculture through hands-on activities. AITC-SK developed 20 Learning Kits in 2011 and is excited to have the support from the Ministry of Agriculture to produce an additional 35 kits in 2012.

"The teachers who were able to access the two kits were thrilled with the quality resources. They appreciated the hands-on materials/resources and the organization of the lessons."
– Curriculum Consultant, Regina Catholic Schools

Finally, to provide further support to inquiry-based learning in the classroom and allow students to study agriculture at a more in-depth level, AITC-SK produced *Foundations of Saskatchewan Agriculture*. This particular resource contains accurate, balanced, and current information on more than 30 commodities and issues relating to agriculture in Saskatchewan. It is intended to complement the lesson plans and learning kits.

Through the information and activities provided by Agriculture in the Classroom, such as the Grade 4 Social Studies resources, students are learning about the importance of agriculture for Saskatchewan's economy, environment, community and future.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

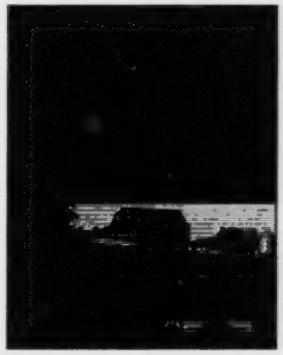
- Visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/programs-services.
- Contact AITC at (306) 933-5224 or by email at sara@aitc.ca.

FARM SAFETY WALKABOUT

by Andre Bonneau, BSA, PAg
Agriculture Health and Safety Representative
on behalf of the Agriculture Health and Safety Network

To help keep everyone on the farm safe, the Agriculture Health and Safety Network has developed the Farm Safety Walkabout. This resource helps farm operators, parents, and new and young workers increase their awareness of potential hazards that exist on the farm.

The Farm Safety Walkabout is designed as a family activity where parents guide their family through checklists, discussions, and activities focused on farm safety. Although this resource is structured for farm families, the walkabout activity and discussion is very useful to encourage a farm safety culture with employers and young or new workers. Effective injury prevention on farms should be a concern to all those that are present on the farm. These walkabout activities also increase awareness of farm child safety, owner/operator safety and the safety of hired workers by facilitating positive safety-related behavioural changes.



The walkabout addresses topics such as developing communication plans, working around livestock and machinery, creating safe play areas for kids and building first aid kits for tractors, trucks and combines. Most importantly, the walkabout helps to focus on issues and hazards that are specific to your farm.

Family members are in the best position to encourage a farm safety culture. Each family member must play an active role in injury prevention and control through the identification and reduction of farm hazards. Family members should also be prepared to properly respond to farm injuries that do occur.

To get the Farm Safety Walkabout Resource, contact:

- Contact the Agriculture Health And Safety Network at (306) 966-6647; or
- Email aghealthandsafety@usask.ca.

14TH ANNUAL NATIVE PRAIRIE APPRECIATION WEEK – *WAKE UP AND SMELL THE PRAIRIES!*

Declared as the third week of June by the Saskatchewan Ministries of Agriculture and Environment since 1999, Native Prairie Appreciation Week (NPAW) is dedicated to raising awareness and appreciation of native prairie ecosystems and their importance to Saskatchewan's provincial, environmental and agricultural sectors.

The Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan is encouraging all families to "get out and smell the prairies" from June 17-23, 2012 by visiting the various locations indicated on our NPAW 2012 checklist. For more information or to download your own checklist, visit our website at www.pcap-sk.org under Native Prairie Appreciation Week.

10 Reasons to love agriculture: The Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Scholarship

by Doris Morrow
Manager, Farm Business Management Services
Regional Services Branch

The Ministry of Agriculture is pleased to award 10 $1,000 Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Scholarships to 10 very deserving Grade 12 students from across the province. This is the second year of the scholarship program.

Congratulations to this year's winners:

- Tim Fiss, Qu'Appelle;
- Taryn Heidecker, Middle Lake;
- Jessa Hughes, Eston;
- Lauren Reynolds, Saskatoon;
- Riley Scott, Nipawin;
- Larissa St. Onge, Martensville;
- Bradley Tomtene, Birch Hills;
- Sarah Wist, Central Butte;
- Andrew Wolff, Liberty; and
- Brianna Zoerb, Delisle.

The scholarship program is available to Grade 12 students or recent graduates who are planning to take agriculture-related post-secondary education beginning in the fall of 2012. Winners were selected based on the merit of their application. Applicants were given the option to submit either a 750-word essay or a three-minute video on "the future information and technological needs of agricultural producers" or "dispel one or more common myths about agriculture through research, facts and statistics". Candidates were also asked to provide a letter of recommendation from a teacher, the agriculture industry or a community leader.

The submissions demonstrated the creativity and enthusiasm that young people in the agriculture industry possess. For example, Taryn Heidecker wrote, "agricultural producers are going to need to produce more food. For this to happen, new technology has to be developed, and existing technology will have to be more effective." Heidecker recognizes that agriculture continues to evolve to meet the challenges around us. Insight such as his will help these students as they pursue careers in agriculture.

The Ministry of Agriculture would like to thank all of the applicants for their submissions. It is clear many of these passionate, bright young minds will ensure the future of agriculture in Saskatchewan.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377; or
- Visit www.agriculture.sk.ca/Scholarship.

Tim Fiss

Taryn Heidecker

Jessa Hughes

Lauren Reynolds

Riley Scott

Larissa St. Onge

Bradley Tomtene

Sarah Wist

Andrew Wolff

Brianna Zoerb

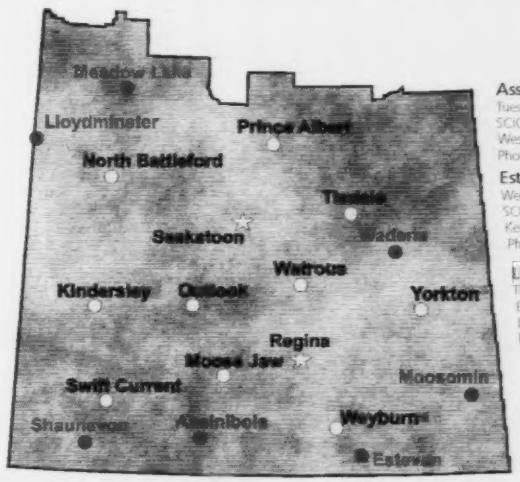
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	PHONE	INTERNET
June 1, 2012	Seager Wheeler Seeding Trends	Rosthern, SK	(306) 232-5959	www.seagerwheelerfarm.org
June 5 - 6, 2012	International Symposium on Beef Cattle Welfare	Saskatoon, SK	(306) 955-4868	conference@beefwelfare2012.ca
June 13 -14, 2012	2012 Saskatchewan Pasture School	Saskatoon, SK	(306) 867-8126	office@saskforage.ca
June 17 - 23, 2012	Native Prairie Appreciation Week	Events across Saskatchewan	(306) 352-0472	pcap@sasktel.net.
June 20, 2012	Deadline to submit Establishment Benefit Claims	Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation	1-888-935-0000	www.saskcropinsurance.com
June 20 - 22, 2012	Canada's Farm Progress Show	Evraz Place Regina, SK	(306) 781-9200	farmshow@evrazplace.com
June 25, 2012	Deadline to submit Seeded Acreage Reports on all crops	Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation	1-888-935-0000	www.saskcropinsurance.com
June 25, 2012	Deadline to submit Unseeded Acreage Claims	Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation	1-888-263-1136	www.saskcropinsurance.com
June 26, 2012	Western Beef Development Centre's (WBDC) Annual Summer Field Day	Termuende Research Ranch near Lanigan, SK	(306) 682-2555	info.wbdc@pami.ca

Regional Services

BRINGING YOU AGRICULTURAL EXPERTISE AND ADVICE WHEN YOU NEED IT AND WHERE YOU NEED IT

The Ministry of Agriculture has 10 regional offices in Kindersley, Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Outlook, Prince Albert, Swift Current, Tisdale, Weyburn, Watrous and Yorkton.

In addition, seven satellite offices are open in the following locations:



Assiniboia
Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SCIC Customer Service Office, 401 - 1st Avenue West, Assiniboia
Phone: 1-866-457-2377

Estevan
Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SCIC Customer Service Office, #5 – 419 Kensington Avenue, Estevan
Phone: (306) 848-2857

Lloydminster NEW LOCATION
Thursdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Exhibition Grounds, 5521 - 49th Avenue, Lloydminster
Phone: (306) 446-7962

Meadow Lake
Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Wiciwakan Place, 101 Railway Place, Meadow Lake
Phone: (306) 446-7962

Moosomin
Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SCIC Customer Service Office, 709 Carleton Street, Moosomin
Phone: (306) 786-1531

Shaunavon
Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SCIC Customer Service Office, 55 3rd Avenue East, Shaunavon
Phone: (306) 778-8285

Wadena
Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
RM of Lakeview Office, Highway 35 South, Wadena
Phone: (306) 946-3230

Saskatchewan Agriculture